

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-8 and ADD new claim 9 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An individual information managing device connected with a communication line network, for managing individual information, the device comprising:

an individual information storing section in which corresponding individual information and corresponding information disclosure items ~~on-of~~ each individual ~~has-been~~is registered, the information disclosure items being assigned by a corresponding individual;

a disclosure procedure storing section in which an information disclosure procedure assigned to each individual by each individual ~~has-been~~is registered, the information disclosure procedure being ~~customized-prepared~~ by each ~~user~~individual; and

a disclosure procedure executing section that receives a request for disclosing individual information ~~on-of~~ a specific individual through the communication line network, executes an information disclosure procedure ~~that matches~~matching the ~~customized-assigned~~ information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, and transmits ~~the information on the specific individual and the information disclosure items registered for the individual information corresponding to the information disclosure items of the specific individual to the communication line network toward the-an~~ information requesting origin when the ~~customized-assigned~~ information disclosure procedure ~~has-been~~is satisfied.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~The individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the individual information storing section is registered with each individual information ~~that consists of~~including a plurality of ranked pieces of information for each individual, based on ~~the-an~~ arrangement that each individual assigns a rank to each of the plurality of ranked pieces of information that constitute the individual information from among a plurality of ranks,

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an information disclosure procedure according to each rank within each individual assigned by each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives a ~~the~~ request for disclosing the corresponding individual information ~~on of a the~~ specific individual, and executes an information disclosure procedure stored in the disclosure procedure storing section ~~that matches~~ matching an information disclosure procedure corresponding to a rank ~~of assigned to the individual~~ information ~~on of~~ the specific individual of which disclosure request ~~has been is~~ received.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~ The individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an information disclosure procedure at a normal time for each individual assigned by each individual, and an information disclosure procedure at an emergency time for each individual assigned by each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives a ~~the~~ request for disclosing the corresponding individual information ~~on of a the~~ specific individual, with attached information for identifying a normal time and an emergency time, and executes an information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section ~~that matches~~ matching the information disclosure procedure at a normal time or the information disclosure procedure at an emergency time, depending on whether the ~~disclosure request~~ for disclosing belongs to the normal time or the emergency time.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~ The individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with a posting procedure assigned by each individual for posting to an individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has a disclosure request posting section that receives a ~~the~~ request for disclosing the corresponding individual information ~~on a of the~~ specific individual, posts to the specific individual that there has been a request for disclosing the corresponding individual information; in a posting procedure ~~that matches~~ matching the a corresponding posting procedure ~~to of the specific individual~~ stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, and receives an approval for the individual information disclosure from the individual who ~~has received this the~~ posting, and the disclosure procedure executing section receives an approval for the individual information disclosure from the disclosure request posting section, and ~~further~~ proceeds with the information disclosure procedure.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~The individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an authentication procedure assigned by each individual for authenticating each individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has an authenticating section that receives a the request for disclosing the corresponding individual information ~~on a of the~~ specific individual, and authenticates the specific individual in an authentication procedure ~~that matches~~ the matching a corresponding authentication procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~The individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an authentication procedure assigned by each individual for authenticating each individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has an authenticating section that authenticates the specific individual in an authentication procedure ~~that matches~~ matching the a corresponding authentication procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, after the disclosure procedure executing section has received an approval for the corresponding individual information disclosure of the specific individual from ~~the a~~ disclosure request posting section.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An~~The information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section ~~can be~~is freely registered with an authorized person ~~to whom~~ having the a right of proceeding with an information disclosure procedure on behalf of the specific individual ~~has been~~is transferred for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives ~~a the~~ request for disclosing individual information ~~on a of the~~ specific individual, and executes an information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section ~~that matches the~~ matching an information disclosure procedure of ~~an the~~ authorized person as a

procedure for disclosing the corresponding individual information ~~on~~of the specific individual, when the disclosure procedure storing section ~~has been~~is registered with the authorized person ~~to whom~~having the right of proceeding with the information disclosure procedure on behalf of the specific individual ~~has been~~is transferred.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for managing information of users using an information managing device connected with a network, comprising:

storing information of the users in association with information disclosure items, the information disclosure items being correspondingly assigned by the users;

allowing each of the users to ~~define~~assign an information disclosure procedure necessary to access respective information of each of the users; and

transmitting information corresponding to the information disclosure items of a specific user among the users responsive to an input of an information disclosure procedure ~~that matches~~matching the ~~defined~~assigned information disclosure procedure ~~specific~~corresponding to the specific user.

9. (NEW) A method for managing information of users using an information managing device connected with a network, comprising:

storing information of a first user and allowing the first user to assign a corresponding disclosure procedure using which each item of the information is to be accessed; and

executing a corresponding disclosure procedure assigned to an item of the information upon receipt of a request from a second user that satisfies the corresponding disclosure procedure assigned to the item by the first user, and making the item accessible by the second user.